WHEREAS, Expansion of Amtrak service by using existing rail rights-of-way would cost less and use less land than new highways and airports, and would further increase Amtrak's energy efficiency advantage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the President of the United States and the United States Congress are urged to take the following steps:

- (1) That federal funding of Amtrak continue at the current levels;
- (2) That Amtrak be excused from paying fuel taxes that airlines do not pay;
- (3) (2) That States be given the flexibility to use federal highway transportation trust fund moneys on Amtrak projects, if they so choose;
- (4) (3) That federal officials include a strong Amtrak system in any plans for a national transportation system; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Kweisi Mfume, and Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Signed May 18, 1995.